

# Road Recollections



Brian Schnebly

**T**he January proof run may not bring any new bulls to the active A.I. list due to a lack of reliability; however, several bulls should receive their first proof and new daughters are popping up all over every month.

One bull that most likely will not get released until April is Aldens Russ-ET. Russ has a limited number of registered daughters to begin with, making it imperative that we try to get as many classified as possible. So far I have been really impressed with the Russ daughters. The few that I have seen have a great combination of dairyness and

strength. They have a high rear udder attachment and very good feet and legs.

I have also started to see a few Flambeau Manor Tiller Les-ET daughters. The ones I have seen thus far have great udders with strong attachments and very strong udder cleft. Some of them could be a little wider at the top of their rear udder and they could be a little sharper with more angularity. However, I think they have adequate strength, which will allow them to compete in a commercial environment and last for numerous lactations.

Sniders Ronalds Alstar is a bull that already has a proof and I am gaining more and more confidence in him all the time. The Alstar daughters are milking extremely well. They have a deep, open rib, strong udder cleft, and close teat placement. The daughters lack some width, especially through the rump. Some of the best Alstar daughters are out of cows with plenty of strength and width. I think he would make the best cross on Lorry, Tiller, or Royal Oak daughters.

I am really anxious to see what the January proofs have in store for Rozelyn Glaciers Holiday. I continue to see Holiday daughters all over the country and I have yet to be disappointed. He consistently sires very youthful, well-attached udders with good teat placement. You do need to protect

against strength, width, and substance. Everything that I have seen leads me to believe that the Holiday daughters are milking a lot better than his -143M shows. A majority of the breeders that I have spoken with are happy with how their Holiday daughters are milking too, so I will be very disappointed if his milk production numbers do not increase.

Edgewater Meadows Yogibear-ET daughters are starting to freshen as well, although I have only seen a couple milking. The daughters I have seen have tremendous strength and substance of bone. Other than that, I have not seen enough of a pattern yet to tell you more. Several have classified pretty well though and he was a young sire with very high breeder satisfaction because of his diverse pedigree so I am anxious to see more daughters in the next few months.

As we approach the Christmas holiday and take time to reflect on the past year, I am very thankful for all the friendships and camaraderie within the Guernsey fraternity. Thank you to everyone who served me a meal or put me up for the night over the past year as I have travelled the country. Guernsey breeders are second to none!! I hope that everyone and their families have a joyous holiday season.

## A Word From Your Director



Jillian Walther

**S**eaason's greetings! As 2007 draws to a close it is a great time to reflect on the year's achievements. Improved milk prices and a continually growing demand for Guernseys made the consignment sales of 2007 the place to be. Consignors offered their best and the buyers obviously appreciated that.

The new freestall & parlor set up at Hoard's Dairyman Farm, in Fort Atkinson, Wis., housing an all-registered Guernsey herd, shines like a beacon throughout the dairy industry. The herd expanded while remaining true to its Guernsey tradition. What a terrific example of how Guernseys can be competitive in a progressive dairy operation.

The supreme champion honor bestowed upon Indian Acres Pistachio Pie at Harrisburg & Madison has taken Guernsey promotion to new heights. A special thanks & congratulations to Ashley Sears & family for representing the Guernsey breed with your truly extraordinary cow.

Junior owned animals have long been the staple of developing lifelong Guernsey enthusiasts. Parents can play the primary role in their child's passion for Guernseys. Giving youth the chance to own a Guernsey is not only a lesson in responsibility for the young individual but provides an opportunity for time spent together working as a family. As adults, we oftentimes underestimate the power we have in fostering a love

for the Guernsey breed in young people. Our encouragement and zest for the task at hand has a significant influence on the youth around us. They observe adults leading by example, and witness our conduct in all matters.

Dairy farmers are forward thinkers. 2007 has entered it's twilight and we see 2008 on the horizon with all the possibilities it holds. Our mental to-do list is forming; register the recently weaned heifer calves, select the next young sires to use in the herd, prepare for the upcoming growing season, start thinking of consignment animals, and eyeing prospects for the next year's tanbark trail.

Here's to another great year for the Guernsey breed!



**The Power Of  
Balanced  
Breeding**

2866 Agriculture Dr., Madison, WI 53718  
Ph (608) 223-9435 ~ Fax (608) 223-9492  
www.semexusa.com ~ info@semexusa.com